

Division of Fish and Wildlife – Marine Fisheries Section <a href="http://www.dem.ri.gov/topics/mftopics.htm">http://www.dem.ri.gov/topics/mftopics.htm</a> (401)423-1923 or (401)423-1932

## A VOLUNTEER TRANSPLANT IN BRISTOL HARBOR IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY MAY 21, 2013

East Bay Shellfishermen have offered to conduct a voluntary "dig and dump" transplant from Bristol Harbor to the Bristol Transplant Bed on Tuesday, May 21st 2013, from 8:00 AM until Noon.

- Shellfishermen will be asked to harvest quahaugs from the high-density beds within the closed waters of Bristol Harbor and distribute the clams throughout the Bristol Transplant Bed from their own vessels.
- Shellfishermen wishing to take part in the volunteer transplant should report to the on-scene DEM enforcement vessel by 8 a.m. on the day of the transplant, and hand-in their license for the duration of the transplant.
- After distributing the quahaugs in the transplant bed, each participating vessel will be inspected and the associated license will be returned to the participant.
- Transplanted shellfish will be unavailable for harvest until December 2013.

## THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT WILL NOT BE CONDUCTING FUNDED QUAHAUG TRANSPLANTS IN 2013.

## **Harvesting Schedule Update**

 Regulations were recently changed to allow for an annual harvest schedule in High Banks Shellfish Management Area. Commencing May 1st 2013, High Banks Shellfish Management Area opened to shellfish harvest from sunrise to sunset, seven days per week, with a daily possession limit of 3 bushels per day for commercial harvesters.